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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/694,732

10/29/2003

Cheng-Liang Hou

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2651

32294 7590 11/18/2008
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.
8000 TOWERS CRESCENT DRIVE
14TH FLOOR
VIENNA, VA 22182-6212

EXAMINER

JAIN, RAJ K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2416

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/18/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/694,732	Applicant(s) HOU, CHENG-LIANG	
	Examiner RAJ JAIN	Art Unit 2416	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 August 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8-10, 13, 15, 16, 17, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Marin et al (USP 5,936,940).

Regarding claims 1, 8, 9 and 16, Marin discloses a method and system and computer readable medium (see abstract), comprising:

incrementing a port transmission rate using a variable resolution (Figs. 1, 5 & 6, col 9 line 9 – col 10 line 47.); and

transmitting data through the port using the incremented port transmission rate (Figs 1, 4-6, col 11 line 25 – col 12 line 27).

Regarding claims 2, 10 and 17, Marin discloses the resolution is a function of the rate (Figs. 6.).

Regarding claims 5, 13 and 20, the resolution is a function of segmented rate ranges (see Fig. 6).

Regarding claims 6, 14 and 21, (see Fig. 5) resolution is 64 Kbps in a first range (region 1), 1 Mbps in a second range, and 8 Mbps in a third range (regions Ln-2, Ln-3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 4, 11, 12, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marin et al (USP 6,219,343 B1) in view Honkasalo et al (USP 6,219,343 B1).

Marin fails to disclose resolution inversely proportional to the rate, and/or resolution decrease exponentially as the rate increases.

Honkasalo discloses the resolution is inversely proportional to the rate (see col 3 lines 15-25.) and the resolution decreases exponentially as the rate increases (col 7 lines 25-40, as data rate increases the resolution decreases based on a given transmission power and therefore lower Eb/No values and more interference respectively). Variable rate changes allows for an efficient data rate services without depletion of resources. Thus it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Honkasalo within Marin so as to improve network efficiency by allocating different data rates to services as required.

Claims 7, 15 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marin et al (USP 6,219,343 B1) in view of Miao (US 2004/0017306A1)

Marin discloses segmented data rates, however, Marin fails to disclose segmented data rates in range above 2Mbps to 1000Mbps.

Miao discloses segmented data rates in range above 2Mbps to 1000Mbps, (see Fig. 6, paras 35-37, the Mux 132 produces on of several data in range from 50Mbps to 1 Gbps.). The inclusion of an scalable high speed data rate converter allows for multiple sources of data reception of various resolutions and magnitude including audio, video, HD video, high speed data transference, etc..

Thus it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Miao within Marin so to improve network capabilities by allowing for multiple input sources of differing magnitude to be incorporated in a network as desired.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed August 19, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to claim 1, Applicant contends Marin fails to disclose "incrementing a port transmission rate using a variable resolution,".

Examiner respectfully disagrees, Marin discloses (col 3 lines 7-14) increasing or decreasing a **connection rate** (to which Applicant concurs), the increase in connection rate would translate to "incrementing a port transmission rate", one skilled in the art would agree that this is same limitation however presented in different verse to represent the same meaning or outcome. Further, applicant contends that 'Marin directing towards reducing a connection rate clearly does not disclose or suggest incrementing a port transmission rate". The Examiner concurs, Marin is presenting two possible alternatives to a communications link to maintain a given status, merely having a reduction in conjunction with increasing of the same port does not disqualify the fact that Marin does disclose "increase in connection rate which does in fact also mean "incrementing a port transmission rate".

Based on the Applicant's contention (page 8 lines 5-11) it would appear that Applicant is attempting to disqualify Marin based on merely the fact that Marin also discloses "reducing" the transmission rate. Again, Examiner respectfully disagrees, that Marion presents one of possible two alternatives for transmission status and therefore does in fact disclose "incrementing a port transmission rate".

Applicant further contends Marin fails to disclose "using a variable resolution".

Examiner respectfully disagrees, based on above discussion, if one agrees that Marin discloses an increase in transmission rate or incrementing a port transmission rate than inherently it would mean that there is proportional change of "resolution" or "data rate". Regarding "variable", first of all, while Examiner understands Applicants intent based on the explanation (page 9 lines 1-8), however, this is not how the claim can be clearly interpreted, and variable can also be interpreted as change in final transmission "rate". Secondly, Marin explicitly discloses incremental changes (See Fig. 6, col 14 lines 23-45) which discusses both fixed and variable changes a "range of values" (col 14 lines 41-42) which can be adjusted as required.

Thus based on above reasoning, Examiner asserts that Marin does in fact disclose all limitations of claim 1 and therefore the rejection to claim 1 is sustained.

Furthermore, claims 8, 9, and 16 recite features similar to claim 1 and therefore their rejection is sustained as well. Claims dependent upon one of the above independent claims are also rejected properly based on above cited art.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RAJ JAIN whose telephone number is (571)272-3145. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Trost can be reached on 571-272-7872. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Art Unit: 2416


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/Raj K. Jain/

Examiner, Art Unit 2416

/William Trost/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2416

<div>Application Number</div> <div></div>	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination	
	10/694,732	HOU, CHENG-LIANG	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	RAJ JAIN	2416	